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Docket No. UF-168C2D1
Serial No. 10/001,560Remarks

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. The specification is amended above to update the priority data in the first paragraph of the specification, and to replace the abstract of the disclosure. Claim 1 is amended above to specify that the claimed invention is an intubation imaging stylet that one uses in a tube/stylet combination while intubating a patient, and configured such that when in use it forms a stylet/tube combination which is held by gripping the tube. Support is found at, for example, page 4, paragraphs 14 and 15. Claims 3-15 are canceled above. New claims 16-23 are presented. Claims 16-18 depend ultimately, from amended claim 1. Claim 19 is an independent claim similar to claim 1, but for the final clause, which finds support at page 13, paragraph 53, among other places. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, and 16-23 will be pending before the Examiner.

The objections to the specification set forth at page 2 of the latest Office Action have been obviated by the above amendments. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In response to the §102 rejection of claims set forth at pages 2-3 of the Office Action, Applicants have amended claim 1 above to contain elements which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited reference (Fritch *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,607,622). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The §103 rejection of claims set forth at pages 3-4 of the Office Action has been obviated by cancellation of the rejected claims. However, Applicants again take this opportunity to point out that the '622 patent does not suggest the newly presented limitations of independent claims 1 and 19, from which all other pending claims depend. The secondary reference, Suzuki *et al.*, fails to cure the deficiency of Fritch *et al.*, as Applicants do not rely on the use of plastic optical fibers as the sole basis for patentability of any of the dependent claims.

Finally, none of the prior art made of record at page 4 of the Office Action discloses or suggests the invention as now claimed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all claims as currently pending are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this amendment, or if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment: Replacement Abstract (page 21).